

PA. 2-4

PA. 2

PRELIMINARY SURVEY OF  
ROHM AND HAAS COMPANY  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Work performed  
by the  
Health and Safety Research Division  
Oak Ridge National Laboratory  
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37830

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OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY  
operated by  
UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION  
for the  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
as part of the  
Formerly Utilized Sites--  
Remedial Action Program

ROHM AND HAAS COMPANY  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

At the request of the Department of Energy (DOE), a preliminary survey was performed at the Rohm and Haas Company plant in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (see Fig. 1), on December 1, 1977, to assess the radiological status of those facilities utilized under Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) Contract AT(49-1)-535 (the contract was destroyed at some point between 1955 and 1977) during the period 1947 through 1955. Roy Bjuvik, Plant Manager, provided information about the project and identified other company representatives who also provided useful information and indicated areas involved in the project. Contract activities included research and development related to analyzing and processing of various uranium ores.

From information obtained in discussions with company representatives, the facilities involved in the project were Building 60, A Wing, Rooms 22 and 24, and a part of Building 49C semiworks area (see Figs. 2 and 3).

#### Present Use of Facilities

Rooms 22 and 24, A Wing, Building 60, are laboratories which remain very much as they were at the time of the project, except for the removal of equipment in 1968. The portion of Building 49C which was involved is currently used primarily for storage. No information is currently available as to the radiological status of these facilities at the time the project ended.

#### Results of Preliminary Survey

The preliminary survey was conducted by H. W. Dickson of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and W. T. Thornton of the Department of Energy-Oak Ridge Operations Office. Exploratory measurements at randomly selected locations within each of the three rooms involved were performed. The measurements consisted of gamma-ray exposure rates made at a height of 1 m above floor surfaces and direct measurements of alpha radiation on surfaces. Additionally, beta-gamma dose rates were measured using Geiger-Mueller survey meters. Readings were taken at 1 cm above the surface at corresponding locations.

The maximum gamma-ray exposure rate at 1 m height for either of the three areas was 8  $\mu$ R/hr. The maximum beta-gamma reading at 1 cm from the surface at corresponding locations was 0.06 mrad/hr. All direct measurements of alpha radiation were at background levels. Based on the measurements made during this preliminary survey, it was concluded that no formal survey would be required at this site.

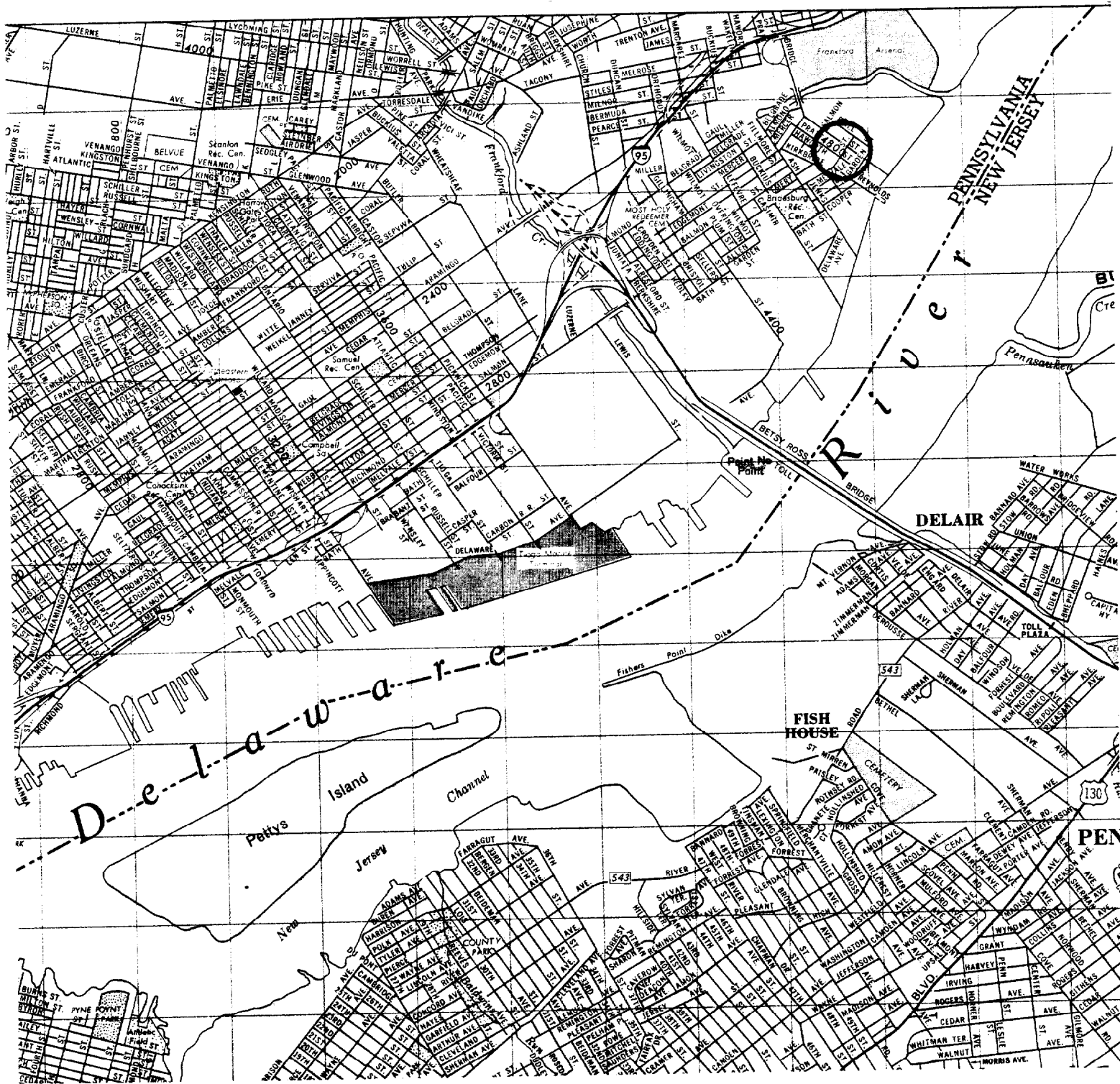


Fig. 1. Location of the Rohm and Haas Company in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



Building 60 A-Wing Room 22

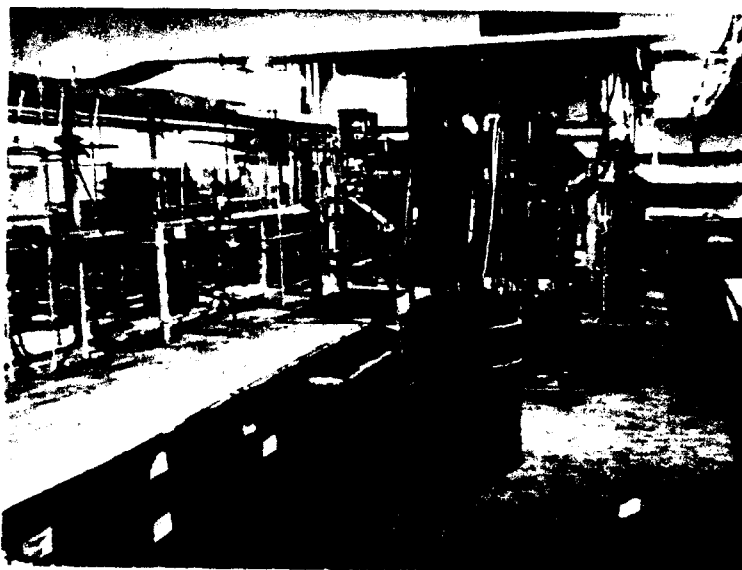


Fig. 2. Views of laboratories on A Wing,  
Building 60.



Fig. 3. View of semiworks area in part of Building 49C.